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10/527,946

03/15/2005

Mihai Adrian Tiberiu Sanduleanu

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03/24/2006

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EXAMINER

KINKEAD, ARNOLD M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2817

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/527,946

Applicant(s)

SANDULEANU, MIHAI ADRIAN  
TIBERIU

Examiner

Arnold M. Kinkad

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Prel. amdt.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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**DETAILED ACTION**

***Priority***

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

The preliminary amendment received 03-15-05 has been entered.

***Specification***

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the reference to figure 1 should be deleted. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).
3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Appropriate headings for the various sections of the specification should be provided.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Henrion(US 6,198,360).

The reference by Henrion discloses a quadrature VCO, see figure 2, comprising an KLC tank circuit, (L1,2, C1,2) coupled to a modulator means (Q9,10) with buffer transistors(Q5,6,7,8) and modulator. Quadrature

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signals(Voutp,Voutn) are generated.The control signal comprising(VconP, VconN) and allows for frequency control.

The amplifier means(Q1,2,3,4) are coupled to the adder, nodes between where the resistors and L1,2 meet(see col.

3, lines 10-20). Please note the other buffer transistors(Q3,4) are transconductance type.The modulator cell having

the Gilbert cell configuration( cross-coupled differential Q5,6,7,8,9,10).

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

8. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henrion in view of Albon et al (US 6,683,509).

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The reference by Henrion discloses a quadrature VCO, see figure 2, comprising an KLC tank circuit, (L1,2, C1,2) coupled to a modulator means (Q9,10) with buffer transistors(Q5,6,7,8) and modulator. Quadrature signals(Voutp,Voutn) are generated. The control signal comprising(VconP, VconN) and allows for frequency control. The amplifier means(Q1,2,3,4) are coupled to the adder, nodes between where the resistors and L1,2 meet(see col. 3, lines 10-20). Please note the other buffer transistors(Q3,4) are transconductance type. The modulator cell having the Gilbert cell configuration( cross-coupled differential Q5,6,7,8,9,10).

The reference by Henrion does not disclose a particular PLL implementation for TV application, however, this is conventional as these VCO oscillators are implemented conventionally within TV tuning circuits and the PLL structure allow for the tuning. The reference by Albon et al is relied upon, see background and figure 6, where a differential oscillator is used with a PLL in a TV tuner.

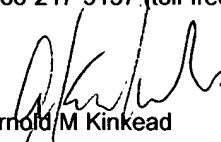
In light of the above it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to have recognized that the VCO/PLL synthesizer maybe implemented in a TV receiver application to allow correct tuning of the broadcast signal, etc.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arnold M. Kinkead whose telephone number is 571-272-1763. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30 am -5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on 571-272-1769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Arnold M Kinkead  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2817

Arnold Kinkead  
March 17, 2006